



sweet grass  
**COMMUNITY**  
FOUNDATION

# RAW DEAL RUN

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**The Raw Deal Run Community Fundraiser is a campaign for community-wide giving. Donations made on behalf of participating organizations during the Raw Deal Run giving period will qualify for matching funds.**

### **What does this mean for your organization?**

Your organization is able to benefit from a fundraising event without all the added work. Sweet Grass Community Foundation takes care of the event management and administration. It doesn't cost you anything, and all you have to do is encourage your supporters and donors to participate.

All organizations can raise as much money as they wish. All contributions received on behalf of your organization during the fundraising period are eligible for matching funds, increasing the amount that your organization will receive.

### **How does it work?**

1. You fill out a simple application for your nonprofit (club, service group, public benefit, project, or other organization) to participate. It doesn't cost your organization anything to be involved.
2. You encourage your supporters to either make a donation or to raise money for your organization. Sweet Grass Community Foundation collects the donations and provides the tax receipts for them.
3. Your donors do not have to run or walk in the race, they can just make a donation online or by mail.
4. The money that is raised by your supporters and donors for your organization will be matched by our Match Fund, allowing those efforts to make a larger impact and increasing the size of their gifts.
5. Soon after the event, we will host the Raw Deal Run Celebration event where all participating organizations will receive the money that was contributed on their behalf plus the matching money from the Match Fund in the form of a grant. If more money is raised than we have in the Match Fund, then a ratio of matching funds to donor contributions provides the match percentage.

### **What are Sweet Grass Community Foundation responsibilities?**

- Receive and process all donations made on behalf of the participating organizations.
- Provide promotional and marketing presence for the Raw Deal Run and participating organizations.
- Organize and execute the Raw Deal Run with the help of community volunteers.
- Provide donor and race brochures, and web access for registration and donations.

- Solicit Community Challengers and Friends of the Match to add to the amount of available matching funds.

### **What are the participating organizations' responsibilities?**

- Encourage runners and walkers to register for the event and to raise money for your organization, and encourage donors to make contributions.
- To operate within the spirit of the event; to function ethically, honestly, and with mutual support in order to bring the community together for fun, fitness, and fundraising!
- Compliance with rules and procedures that govern participation in the event.
- Encourage those involved in your organization to volunteer for the Raw Deal Run

### **How does our organization sign up to be part of the Raw Deal Run?**

All 501 (c) 3's and government recognized tax-exempt programs in Sweet Grass County are invited to participate. There is no cost to apply. To be eligible, your organization must complete a Nonprofit Participation Application. We review each application and confirm the organization's eligibility. Once the application is approved, your organization will be contacted. Organizations that are not an established 501 (c) 3 must have a fiscal sponsor, or become a pre-approved grantee of Sweet Grass Community Foundation. Pre-approved grantees could include: service organizations, clubs, exempt government units, pending 501 (c) 3 determinations, or other public benefit organizations.

### **What happens after our organization is approved to participate?**

You will receive guidelines, instructions and official donor forms. You will also receive donation collection forms, fundraising tips, and fun run registration forms that you can hand out to your supporters. Then all you have to do is get your supporters excited about fundraising for you and encourage your donors to donate!

### **How long is the Raw Deal Run fundraising period?**

The fundraising period opens early September and runs through the day of the Raw Deal Run held on the second Saturday in October. Funds received by Sweet Grass Community Foundation during this period are eligible to be matched.

### **How can people in the community get involved?**

They may register to participate in the event or make a donation. Runners do not need to donate and donors can give without running, but those who do both benefit the most! Individuals may also volunteer to help administer the run, or help staff an organization's booth on race day.

### **What happens on the day of the Raw Deal Run?**

Participants run in the 6 mile race or walk or run in the 3 mile race. Children's activities will be also be provided. There are costumes, a free chili feed, and an awards ceremony. Participating organizations are invited to have booths for information on their local services. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

### **Who provides the matching funds?**

Sweet Grass Community Foundation raises money for the Match Fund from individuals in the community, known as Community Challengers, Community Builders and Friends of the Match. That money is then available to match what is raised for your organization.

**What is the match amount and how is it determined?**

When all the gifts have been recorded and acknowledged by Sweet Grass Community Foundation—soon after the run—we calculate the match percentage. It is based on the amount of money available in the Match Fund relative to the total amount of money raised for the participating organizations. We then match that percentage of the contributions made on the behalf of your organization.

**Why is Sweet Grass Community Foundation doing all this?**

By turning the Raw Deal Run into a campaign for community-wide giving, we hope to:

- Generate a new funding opportunity for qualified organizations in Big Timber.
- Reduce fundraising costs for local organizations.
- Optimize local business sponsorship dollars and decrease the frequency of requests for contributions from those businesses.
- Connect the people of Sweet Grass County with causes they care about.
- Engage the entire community in promoting active philanthropy for all.
- Create a spirit of community and mutual support.

Sweet Grass Community Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to our community

**For more information or to request a Nonprofit Participation Application:**

Contact us at 932-3090 or [programs@sweetgrasscf.org](mailto:programs@sweetgrasscf.org).